

I can find no record of any promise having been made to these Indians that they should be paid for the lands in the Cowichan Valley which they may have laid claim to, nor can I learn that any such promise has ever been made. But it is probable that the Cowichans when the white people began to settle among them may have expected and considered themselves entitled to receive for the lands which they held to be theirs, similar donations to those which had been presented to their neighbours, the Saanich Indians years previously, as before mentioned, on their relinquishing their claims on the lands around their villages. It is further very likely that it was Governor Douglas' intention that such gratuities should be bestowed on this tribe although no direct promise to that effect had been made, and in fact presents of agricultural instruments and tools were authorized to be made to them through this Department last year although no demands for payment for their lands had to my knowledge been made by these Indians of Government.

It is unfortunately only too true that the Law forbidding the sale of liquor to Indians although efficacious in